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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Production and Marketing Administration  
Information Branch  
821 Market Street, Room 615  
San Francisco 3, California

In cooperation with the  
Federal-State Market News Service

### WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending Jan. 2, 1948)

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 30--- Best buys for the fruit bowl this week are apples (Watsonville Newtowns) and oranges (Navels).

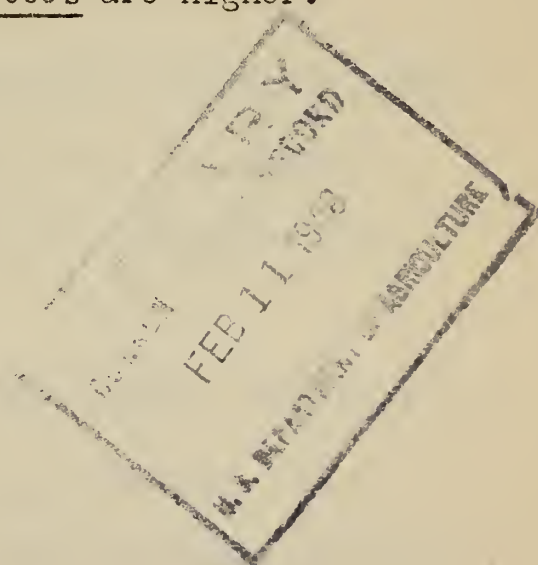
Grapes, pears and grapefruit can be considered as fair buys.

Cauliflower is tops as far as "best buy" vegetables are concerned.

Cabbage, celery at a slightly higher price, eggplant and spinach are fair buys.

Artichokes and carrots are still high, but prices are coming down some. Snap beans remain high; broccoli is fairly high; good quality lettuce is high; onions and potatoes are a little higher than last week; squash and tomatoes are pretty high; and sweetpotatoes are higher.

MORE





Last week's meat slaughter was curtailed somewhat to accommodate the short holiday week. Practically all kinds and classes of meat held unchanged in price, except Skinned No. 1 smoked hams, which were in very liberal supply and dropped \$2.00, and veal and calf carcasses, which were mainly of Utility to Good grades and went up \$1.00 to \$2.00. Beef supplies were about evenly balanced with their demand. The steer and heifer beef offered was mostly of Good grade. Commercial cow beef was in rather broad demand. A fair amount of Good and Choice lamb moved during the week, while light supplies of ewe mutton were in rather broad demand. Liberal offerings of fresh pork were only in moderate demand. Bacon offerings were very light and unchanged in price.

Butter prices reflect uncertainty in post-holiday demand. Grade A (92 Score) is down 1-cent at 89 cents per pound. Grade B(90 Score) is in more demand and up 2 cents per pound. San Francisco's retail sales are still running behind last year.

Eggs are unchanged in price from last week. Wholesale quotations remain at 66-67 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents per dozen for Grade "A" Large, 63-64 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents for Mediums, 54-55 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents for Smalls, and 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ -56 $\frac{1}{2}$  cents per dozen for Grade "B" Large. Lower prices are being anticipated.

In the poultry market demand is good to strong for lighter offerings of young chickens. Leghorn and colored fowl is also in good demand. As a result, prices are 1-cent per pound higher on both live and dressed broilers and lightweight colored fryers. Heavy colored fryers are up 1-cent on live weights and 2 cents on dressed weights. Light Leghorn fowl is selling 1-cent higher on both live and dressed weights, while the heavier Leghorns are up 1-cent alive and 2 cents higher dressed. Young hen turkeys are also up 1 to 2 cents per pound on live weights.

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### WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending Jan. 9, 1948)

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan 6----- Best buys to go into the market basket this week are apples (California Newtowns), oranges (Navels), and cauliflower.

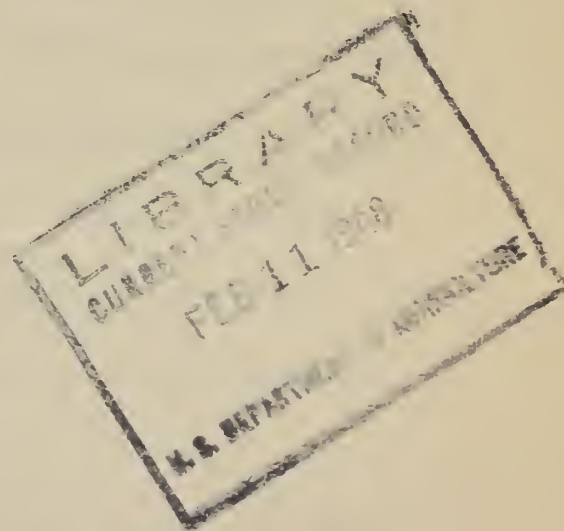
Second choices include grapes (considering the season of the year), grapefruit, pears, broccoli, cabbage, celery (little higher), and spinach.

Avocados are still high.

High-priced vegetables are artichokes, snap beans, carrots, lettuce, peppers, squash, and tomatoes.

Onions, potatoes, and sweet potatoes are all selling higher this week.

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Again this past week, meat slaughter was held in line with a short holiday week of trading. The lighter supply was quite noticeable in the pork division, where there was a rather broad demand for fresh cuts. Prices went up \$1.00 to \$3.00 on fresh pork cuts, while carcasses showed a \$1.00 to \$2.00 upturn. Smoked skinned hams and bacon were unchanged. Other meats held their own as far as prices were concerned. Utility to Good grades of veal and calf cleared daily at prices mostly on the top side of the price range. There was a good demand for steer and heifer beef at mostly unchanged prices. Cow beef was a little burdensome in some places -- mostly the Canner to Utility grades. On the other hand, Commercial cow beef was in rather broad demand. Supplies of lamb were fairly liberal and in a rather narrow range of Good and Choice grades. Ewe mutton remained in fairly broad demand.

Grade B(90 Score) butter is in fairly active demand and up 2 cents this week at 86 cents per pound. Grade A(92 Score) is unchanged at 89 cents per pound. Supplies remain light.

Top grade eggs are down in price. Grade "A" Large eggs are selling 4 cents below last week at  $62-63\frac{1}{2}$  cents per dozen; Grade "A" Mediums are 3 cents lower at  $60-61\frac{1}{2}$  cents per dozen. Grade "A" Smalls remain unchanged at  $54-55\frac{1}{2}$  cents per dozen, as do Grade "B" Large at  $55\frac{1}{2}-56\frac{1}{2}$  cents. Demand has been stimulated by the lower prices, with the result that there is a better clearance of supplies, which are fairly liberal due to the normal seasonal production.

Poultry prices are little changed from Tuesday of last week. Colored fryers are up 1-cent per pound on live weights, and ducks are up 2 cents on both live and dressed weights. Generally, demand has improved for all classes--especially young chickens and hens, so that moderately liberal supplies are no more than ample for needs. Large roasters have been scarce which has made the call greater for large fryers.

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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending Jan. 16, 1948)

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 13 ---Best market basket buys this week are apples (California Newtowns), oranges (Navels, all sizes), and cauliflower.

Fairly good buys include grapes (Emperor and Almeria - but watch the quality), broccoli, spinach, and cabbage (all moderately high in price.)

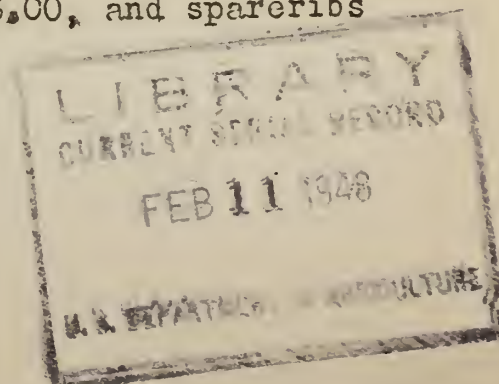
Just fair buys include grapefruit, Winter pears, and celery.

Avocados are still high, as are artichokes, lettuce, squash and tomatoes.

Already very high potatoes and onions are in lighter supply and even more expensive than they were last week.

Beef slaughter hardly kept pace with demand during the week. Steer and cow beef prices moved up a little. Good steer carcasses up to 650 pounds sold at \$45.00. Some good 500 to 550 pound heifer beef moved at \$1.00 under steer prices. Fresh veal and calf supplies were seasonally limited. Good 150 to 200 pound calf carcasses moved strong at \$40.00 to \$42.00 with a few Choice making \$43.00 to \$45.00. There was a slight increase in slaughter of lamb and mutton, and many reported good clearance. A few lots of Good and Choice up to 45 pounds brought \$45.00 to \$46.00, while strings 45 to 50 pounds moved at \$44.00 to \$45.00, and the 50 to 60 pounders were plentiful at \$43.00 to \$44.00. Fresh and frozen pork moved in liberal volume during the week. Fresh loins up to 12 pounds brought \$58.00 to \$62.00; regular fresh 10 to 14 pound hams were \$57.00 to \$59.00; 4 to 8 pound picnics were \$44.00 to \$46.00, and spareribs

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In accordance with  
Federal-Trade Commission

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Subject: [Illegible]

Reference is made to [Illegible]

[Illegible]

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up to 3 pounds brought \$45.00 to \$55.00.

Sharp butter production increases were experienced over the previous week in all major producing areas except California, Washington and Oregon. Reacting to buyer resistance and selling pressure, prices broke sharply, as much as  $10\frac{1}{2}$  cents on 92 and 93 score in New York. The Chicago market followed closely. Local wholesale prices to dealers for Grade A (92 Score) butter was 88 cents, and Grade B (90 Score) brought 86 cents.

There was good demand for top quality eggs here during the week. Production continued to show gradual increase. Large Grade A eggs to dealers brought 60 to  $61\frac{1}{2}$  cents; Medium A, 58 to  $59\frac{1}{2}$ ; Small A, 54 to  $55\frac{1}{2}$ , and Large Grade B,  $55\frac{1}{2}$  to  $56\frac{1}{2}$ .

General tone of the poultry market was steady and prices remained unchanged. Broilers were scarce, while colored fryers were in liberal supply. Demand for dressed poultry was moderate. Wholesale prices for young Tom turkeys was 47 to  $47\frac{1}{2}$  cents and 55 to 57 cents for young hens.

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WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending January 23, 1948)

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SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 20 -- Best market buys this week again include apples (California Newtowns), plus cauliflower, and cabbage. Oranges (Navels, all sizes) are still a best buy, but are slightly up in price from last week.

Second choices, or fair buys, are grapes (Emperors and Almerias), grapefruit, pears, broccoli, sweet potatoes, celery, and spinach.

Avocados continue high in price, while artichokes cost a little less than last week, but are still high. Lettuce prices are considerably lower than a week earlier -- about one-third lower. Lettuce may almost be classed as a fair buy.

Potatoes continue very high in price, as do onions.

Beef slaughter continued to increase throughout the past week, but supplies barely met the daily demand. Good steer and heifer beef held firm with Good carcasses up to 700 pounds moving out at \$45.00 to \$46.00. All cow carcasses met strong demand and prices went up \$2.00 per hundredweight on Canner to Cutter grades. Fresh veal and calf supplies continued seasonally light. Choice carcasses up to 170 pounds showed a \$3.00 advance in price at \$45.00 to \$48.00, as did Good carcasses at \$43.00 to \$45.00. Lamb became a little more plentiful in supply during the week and scarce supplies of ewe mutton were in good demand, while both continued at the price levels of the previous week. Fairly plentiful supplies of fresh pork cuts moved in a rather large volume throughout the week. Regular fresh 10 to 14 pound hams were slightly higher on the top of the price range at \$57.00 to \$61.00, as were 4 to 8 pound picnics at \$44.00 to \$48.00.

Butter production declined sharply from the previous week in most of the

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major producing areas with the decreases especially sharp in the Western States of California, Washington and Montana. However, the western production was slightly above a year ago. Sharp price declines in the East were reflected in the local market by buyers limiting their purchases to immediate needs. Tuesday of this week found some demand for Grade A (92-Score) butter holding top grades steady, but more liberal offerings of lower grades went unsold at 86¢ per pound.

Increased egg receipts failed to clear this week and gave the market a weaker outlook. In addition to liberal arrivals from nearby areas, eggs from other states were being offered in large numbers. Small Grade A eggs declined another 3 cents on Tuesday of this week. Compared with a week ago, all grades of eggs dropped in price, with the decreases ranging from 2¢ on Large Grade B's to 6¢ on Small Grade A's. Large Grade A eggs to dealers brought 55 to 56½ cents; Medium A's, 53 to 54½; Small A's, 48 to 49½; and Large Grade B's, 53½ to 54½ cents.

Poultry prices moved up from Tuesday of last week on broilers, fryers and roasters, all of which sold one cent higher on live and dressed weights. Leghorn hens also brought 1 to 2 cents more than on Tuesday of a week ago. Broilers were scarce, while offerings of colored fryers were liberal. Demand for dressed poultry continued in moderate volume, which is normal for January. Turkeys were in good demand at unchanged prices.

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FEB 17 1948

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WHAT'S NEWS IN THE MARKETS?

(USDA Food Bulletin for the week ending Jan. 30, 1948).

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SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 27---Apples, particularly the California Newtowns, oranges (Navels), cabbage and cauliflower head the list of best buys again this week.

Fair buys include such fruits as grapes, grapefruit, and pears. Among the vegetables, broccoli, celery, spinach and hard squash (Hubbard and Banana) are the week's fair buys.

Sweet potatoes, lettuce, and Russet potatoes are all higher in price. Onions command pretty high prices, as do snap beans, artichokes, peas, and peppers.

Meat has been in less demand this past week so that accumulations have shown up in some spots, and, in addition, have been augmented by rather liberal truck loads from country points. Prices, though, are little changed. On beef, demand generally turned slow to result in supplies being more plentiful than for several weeks and prices on cow beef narrowing to inside quotations. The quality of steer and heifer beef has been mainly Commercial to Good, while cow beef has consisted largely of Canner to Utility grades. There has been a fairly wide range of quality on moderate offerings of veal and calf. Lamb supplies became a little more plentiful toward the close of last week, with some carry-over. Quality was mostly Good and Choice. Ewe mutton continued in very light supply. Daily hog slaughter was fair and resulted in liberal supplies of fresh pork during the week. Smoked skinned hams of No. 1 grade held the \$2.00 price increase made early in the week. Bacon held unchanged.

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Butter prices are unchanged from last week, with San Francisco's wholesale prices holding well above Eastern market prices. Grade A(92 Score) is quoted at 88 cents per pound and Grade B(90 Score) at 86 cents. If these higher prices continue, it's expected that more butter will come to California markets. For the week ending Jan. 17 retail sales at Chicago increased 2.3 percent over the previous week, while in San Francisco retail sales dropped 6.8 percent during the same period.

With supplies of eggs constantly becoming heavier and 20 percent above last year, wholesale prices have tumbled 5 cents from a week ago on all Grade "A" eggs and 4 cents on Grade "B" Large eggs. Compared with last year, large eggs are now 2 cents lower and mediums and smalls 1-cent lower. Grade "B" Large eggs are selling 9 cents higher than a year ago.

On the poultry market, supplies of Leghorn broilers and colored fowl are light. Squabs are scarce and selling 10 cents per pound higher on dressed weights. Dressed tom turkeys are up 1-cent, while both live and dressed rabbits are selling 1 to 2 cents higher. Colored young chickens are in liberal supply and tend to sell a little lower.

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